



DRAFT DOCUMENT

**Policy Priorities for Governance, Accountability, Spending,
Revenue, Planning & Implementation**

Regional Services Initiative

- Draft 3: Jan. 31, 2020 -

Policy Details	Status
<p>1) <u>Regional Oversight</u></p> <p>a) Expand scope of existing Metro Housing Bond Oversight committee, or use it as a model to create new committee to oversee homeless services.</p> <p>b) Expansion of existing oversight committee, or creation of a new committee includes:</p> <p>i) Composition and membership of Regional Services Oversight Committee:</p> <p>(1) Convener of body: Metro</p> <p>(2) Purpose of body: Monitor the ongoing implementation of the Regional Services Initiative by the counties on behalf of Metro, the county boards and the public.</p>	<p>1a) Approved</p> <p>1 b) & 1c): Open for Comments until January 30, 2020, 5pm</p>

- (3) **Appointment of Members:** Members will be appointed by the county boards, with consultation from Metro
- (4) **Membership Number and Composition:** Each county will appoint five members including at least one person who:
 - (a) Has lived experience of homelessness or severe housing instability
 - (b) Has expertise in the development and implementation of supportive housing and other services designed to serve the priority population, with a priority for people with expertise in the delivery of culturally specific services
 - (c) Represents the private for-profit sector
 - (d) Represents the philanthropic sector
 - (e) Represents the County's bureau, department or office overseeing the Continuum of Care and expenditures of other public resources
- (5) **Considerations for Convener:**
 - (a) One person may represent more than one of the required perspectives
 - (b) Counties should ensure geographic representation for each of the counties
 - (c) Providing stipends or other resources to support member participation.
 - (d) Metro may contract with an independent 501(c)3, housing authority, or other government agency for staffing and research support.
 - (e) New or existing committees may be used to achieve this
- (6) **Responsibilities of Regional Oversight Committee:**
 - (a) Review Local Implementation Plans (see 2 below), both the initial plan and all amended plans, for consistency with the commitments made to voters in the Regional Services Initiative, and recommend adoption, adoption with amendments, or rejection to county boards.
 - (b) Accept and review annual reports from each county for consistency with approved Local Implementation Plans and present results to Metro Council and county boards annually.

<p>(c) Solicit, review, and approve proposals from the counties to expend Regional Services Initiative funds set-aside to expand the development and implementation of coordinated tri-county responses to homelessness and housing instability, as set out in section 10.</p> <p>(d) Publish at least every two years a comprehensive report of all outcomes achieved by the counties with the Regional Services Initiative resources and an evaluation of the extent to which expenditures in each county align with the approved Local Implementation Plans and the commitments made to voters in the Regional Services Initiative.</p>	
<p><u>2)Local Planning & Implementation</u></p> <p>a) Each county will be responsible for developing and periodically updating a Local Implementation Plans that documents the uses of Regional Services Initiative funds and how these uses align with the commitments made to voters in the Regional Services Initiative.</p> <p>b) Requirements for developing Local implementation plan:</p> <p>i) Each county shall use a locally convened body that includes a broad array of stakeholders, to develop its Local Implementation Plan. It may convene a new committee or use a standing committee (if the standing committee can demonstrate a track record of achieving equitable outcomes to regional oversight committee), provided that the committee responsible for drafting the Local Implementation Plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Use a racial equity lens to design and implement its decision making process and to develop the content of the Local Implementation Plan; b) Use the best available quantitative and qualitative data to develop the content of the Local Implementation Plan; c) Develop, implement, and use the results of a comprehensive community engagement process that prioritizes the voices of people with lived experience and from communities of color to develop the content of the Local Implementation Plan; d) Include as members of the committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) People with lived experience of homelessness and/or extreme poverty 	<p>Open for Comments until January 30, 2020, 5pm</p>

- ii) People from communities of color and other marginalized communities
- iii) Mainstream and culturally specific service providers
- iv) Elected officials, or their representatives, from the county and any CDBG cities
- v) Representatives from the business, faith, and philanthropic sectors
- vi) Representatives of the county/city agencies responsible for implementing homelessness and housing services, and that routinely engage with the unsheltered population.

c) Process for approving local implementation plan:

- i) Each county shall develop and present their initial Local Implementation Plan to the Regional Services Oversight Committee for its review, comment and recommendation.
- ii) Following the Regional Services Oversight Committee’s review and recommendation, each county’s Local Implementation Plan must be approved by Metro and that County’s Board.

d) Each County’s Local Implementation Plan must demonstrate the following:

- i) **Geographic Equity:** A commitment to and a strategy to ensure that services funded through the Regional Services Initiative are equitably geographically distributed throughout each county.
- ii) **Community Engagement:** A demonstration that the Local Implementation Plan was created by a committee, and through a process, that meets the requirements of 2) b) i)
- iii) **Racial Equity:** A thorough racial equity analysis and strategy that includes: (1) an analysis of the racial disparities within the homeless population in county, and the Priority Service Population (see Section 6) in particular; (2) disparities in access and outcomes within the county’s current services for the homeless population, and the Priority Service Population in particular; (3) clearly defined service strategies and resource allocations intended to remedy existing disparities and ensure equitable access to Regional Services Initiative funds; and (4) an articulation of how perspectives of communities of color/culturally specific groups were considered/incorporated.
- iv) **Needs/Gaps Analysis:** A review of current system investments/capacity benefitting the priority population, an analysis of the nature and extent of gaps in services to meet the needs of the priority population, broken down by service type, household types, and demographic groups.

- v) **Services & Service Delivery:** A description of the planned investments of Regional Services Initiative funds that includes: (1) the types of services that will be invested in (e.g. outreach, shelter, supportive housing, prevention), and how these proposed investments align with need/gaps analysis in v (above); (2) the scale of the investments proposed in (1) and how these address the needs/gaps identified in v (above)); (3) the outcomes anticipated by the investments identified in (1) and (2) (this section); and (4) the service delivery models/best practices that will be used in each service area to ensure the best and most equitable outcomes from the expenditure of Regional Services Initiative funds.
- vi) **Outcome Tracking, Reporting & Evaluation:** Each county shall propose in the Local Implementation Plan how it will track outcomes from Regional Services Initiative funded services, a plan for reporting those outcomes (no less often than annually), and a plan for the evaluation of Regional Services Initiative funded services and programs.
- vii) **Procurement:** Each county's Local Implementation Plan must include a description of how Regional Services Initiative funds will be allocated to public and non-profit service providers. It is expected that counties will use their established procurement processes for public funds to ensure funds are made available through transparent and accountable processes.
- viii) **Prohibition on Displacement of Funds:** Each county's Local Implementation Plan will identify its then current general fund investment in the categories of services for the priority population authorized to receive Regional Services Initiative funds and provide a commitment, and a process to monitor and publicly confirm, that Regional Services Initiative funds will not be used to replace any of the county general fund investments in these areas. Regional Services Initiative funds may be used to maintain service capacity for the priority population that is put at risk by reductions in funding that are not within the direct control of the county (e.g. federal, state, philanthropic funds).
- e) **Reporting:** Each county shall provide a report at least every two years on its progress under the Local Implementation Plan to the Regional Services Oversight Committee that will include a discussion of progress towards outcomes in each of the service areas identified in the Local Implementation Plan and a separate analysis of progress toward the implementation of the county's racial equity strategy, as set out in d) iv)
- f) **Process for changing Local Implementation Plans:** A county wishing to use Regional Services Initiative funds in a manner that substantially deviates from what is contemplated in the original Local

<p>Implementation Plan, either because it wishes to change its strategies or service delivery for the priority population, or because it wishes to begin serving people at risk of or experiencing homelessness who are not in the priority population, shall first submit proposed amendments to the Local Implementation Plan for review, comment and recommendation by the Regional Services Oversight Committee. The Regional Services Oversight Committee shall provide its recommendation to the [county board/metro]. The [county board/metro] shall approve the amendments to the Local Implementation Plan.</p>	
<p>3) <u>Local Accountability</u></p> <p>a) Progress Reporting: Following the approved Local Implementation Plan outcome, reporting, and evaluation plan, each county shall provide a report on the uses and outcomes achieved with Regional Services Initiative funds to the Regional Services Oversight Committee and the public at least annually. The Regional Services Oversight Committee may hold a public forum(s) to share and receive public feedback on the annual county progress reports.</p> <p>b) Prohibition on Displacement of Funds Confirmation: Counties shall annually confirm to the Regional Services Oversight Committee, either in the progress report set out in 3)a) or separately, that they have conducted the review required in their Local Implementation Plans and that Regional Services Initiative funds were not used to offset reductions in county general fund investments in the Regional Services Initiative authorized services provided to the priority population. New funds are allocated to a sub account; annual, independent audits to demonstrate funds from this measure are being used only for new services or scaling up existing services. Regional oversight board may require an improvement plan or refuse to issue new funds if this section is not adhered to.</p>	<p>Open for Comments until January 30, 2020, 5pm</p>
<p>4) <u>Local Administrative Expenses</u></p> <p>a) Local governments may spend not more than 5% on administrative expenses. NOTE: Administrative cap does not apply to nonprofits, housing authorities or other service</p>	<p>To be determined</p>

<p>provider grantees.</p>	
<p><u>5)Funding Allocation</u></p> <p>a) Funds distributed according to the county they are collected in (i.e. money collected in Clackamas County is returned to Clackamas County)</p>	<p>To be determined</p>
<p><u>6)Funding Priorities/Priority Service Population(s)</u></p> <p>a) Guiding principle: As outlined in 2-b-i, Require thorough community engagement to create a shared vision of racial equity strategies for local, community-led plans funded by the measure. Prioritize input identified and created by communities of color and other underserved and/or marginalized groups to scale up solutions.</p> <p>b) Defining Priority Service Population(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Regional Services Initiative funds are intended to first address the unmet services needs of people who are either experiencing, or at risk of experiencing long-term or frequent episodes of homelessness by virtue of (1) of being extremely low-income and having one or more disabling conditions, or (2) being a member of a historically and presently marginalized community that lacks access to culturally and/or linguistically specific services (the Priority Population). ii) The terms used here have the following meaning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Extremely Low Income: Income at or below 30% of the Area Median Income for the county. (2) Disabling Condition: A physical, developmental, or behavioral health disability that is substantially limiting an individual's opportunity to earn a living that would allow them to afford housing in the community. (3) Homelessness: Living outdoors, in a shelter, a transitional housing program, or a place not meant for human habitation. (4) Long term or frequent episodes: A year or more of continuous homelessness, or four experiences of homelessness in three years. 	<p>Open for Comments until January 30, 2020, 5pm</p>

<p>(5) At Risk: Someone exiting an institution (including but not limited to exiting incarceration or foster care), fleeing a domestic violence situation, or facing imminent housing loss, who, but for a Regional Services Initiative services intervention, will be homeless.</p> <p>iii) Eliminating Disparities: Counties must begin by prioritizing Regional Services Initiative funds to services and programs that reach and successfully serve those groups that are overrepresented within the Priority Population, including, in particular, communities of color.</p> <p>iv) Additional Populations: In the event that a county is able to create a system of care that has enough capacity to meet the homeless and housing services needs of the Priority Population it may amend its LIP to prioritize additional populations experiencing and at risk homelessness, provided that it must be able to demonstrate how advancing racial equity, and the elimination of racial disparities in homelessness, is achieved through this prioritization.</p>	
<p><u>7)Services</u></p> <p>a) See list of spending strategies approved in the Strategic Policy Framework</p>	<p>APPROVED</p>
<p><u>8)Revenue</u></p> <p>a) [More information will be added to this section pending ECONorthwest Report]</p> <p>b) Requires voter renewal every xx years - pending discussion</p>	<p>8b. Only: Scheduled for second group discussion on February 7, 2020</p>
<p><u>9)Racial Equity</u></p> <p>a) Focus on equity and lead with race/center perspectives and experiences:</p> <p>i) Within other priorities already stated, employ a racial equity lens to plan development and implementation to prioritize equitable outcomes for communities that are overrepresented in our homeless population, are most-at-risk of long term homelessness, and/or have been underserved and/or marginalized and under-served due to lack of culturally specific and/or linguistic specific services</p>	<p>Open for Comments until January 30, 2020, 5pm</p>

- ii) Meaningfully engage and make decisions with communities of color, Indigenous communities, people with low incomes, and other underserved and/or marginalized communities in identifying, prioritizing, planning, developing, selecting, and funding of projects.
- iii) Actively remove barriers for organizations and communities to ensure full participation by providing stipends, scheduling events at accessible times and locations, and other supportive engagement tactics.
- iv) Prioritize funding to ~~contractors and human service~~ providers who demonstrate a commitment and delivery to under-served and over-represented populations, with culturally specific and/or linguistic specific services, as well as those programs that have the lowest barriers to entry and actively reach out to communities often screened out of other programs.
 - (1) Use shared community values to set aspirational goals for investing in a robust and diverse workforce committed to achieving equitable outcomes among communities most impacted. These goals should include robust and fair compensation that takes into account lived experience and expertise frontline services workers bring, while also celebrating their professionalism and dedication to the work, while also recognizing the traumatic impact of front line work.

b) Ensure equity in outcomes:

- i) Demonstrate accountability for tracking outcomes and reporting impacts, particularly as they relate to communities of color, Indigenous communities, people with low incomes, LGBTQ+ community, and other underserved and/or marginalized communities.
- ii) Set measurable goals for advancing racial equity and identify metrics for monitoring outcomes:
 - (1) Establish meaningful and ongoing communication with community-based organizations to review metrics and methods used to evaluate program impact.
 - (2) Use evaluation as a tool to expand community engagement in the program, identify challenges and opportunities for further progress, improve program

implementation to achieve identified outcomes, and celebrate accomplishments and successes.

c) Stay accountable to long term impact

- i) Include strategies to prevent or mitigate displacement and/or gentrification resulting from investments of resources made under this measure.
- ii) Teach equity: Provide ongoing/continuing education equity training opportunities that include anti-racist curricula for all project partners, including building owner and management staff, resident services staff, and partners that support residents.

10) Tri County Planning Initiative

- a) No more than \$XX shall be set aside annually from the Regional Services Initiative to support the development and implementation of a tri-county initiative that will be responsible for identifying tri-county goals, strategies, and outcome metrics related to addressing homelessness in the region.
- b) The counties shall present to the Regional Services Oversight Committee for its approval a proposal for the implementation of the tri-county initiative no later than 1 year after the adoption of the Regional Services Initiative.
- c) The proposal for the initiative shall include the development of a governance structure for the initiative, provision for the creation of strategic framework to guide the initiative, process for the identification of regional goals, the development of specific strategies, and the monitoring of outcomes.
- d) The proposal for the initiative must demonstrate how the initiative will incorporate the priorities of the Regional Services Initiative, will align with the approved Local Implementation Plans for each county, as well as how it builds upon and advances the strategies and goals of local county ending homelessness planning efforts, including through the federally funded Continuums of Care and the community action agencies. The purpose of the initiative must be to create tri-county strategies and goals that take advantage of the Regional Services Initiative and build upon existing local-county planning efforts.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">e) The proposed initiative governance structure must be inclusive of people representing at least the perspectives required in Section 1b4 to be represented on the Regional Services Oversight Committee.f) The tri-county initiative created with Regional Services Initiative funding shall be formally created through an intergovernmental agreement between the three counties.g) Within one year of the adoption of the tri-county initiative, and as needed thereafter, each county shall bring forward amendments to its Local Implementation Plan that incorporate relevant regional goals, strategies, and outcome measures, for review and approval as set out above in Section 2d.h) The Regional Services Oversight Committee may provide ongoing oversight of the initiative through the incorporation of progress reports into the required every two year reports called for in Section 1b | |
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